

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/821,794

Examiner

X L Bautista

Applicant(s)

SHIMAMOTO ET AL.

Art Unit

2179

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to document filed 12/8/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 12-15.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 30 March 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

X. L. Bautista
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2179

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Thomas E. Brown on 12/21/04.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claims:

Claim 12, lines 4-5: "storing addresses for a plurality of GUI screens corresponding respectively to a plurality of controlling organizations for distributed control of users; and" has been changed to --storing addresses in said server system for a plurality of GUI screens corresponding respectively to a plurality of controlling organizations for distributed control of users; and--.

Claim 13, line 4-5: "means for storing addresses for a plurality of GUI screens corresponding respectively to a plurality of controlling organizations for distributed control of users; and" has been changed to --means for storing addresses in said server system for a plurality of GUI screens corresponding respectively to a plurality of controlling organizations for distributed control of users; and--.

2. Claims 12-15 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Independent claims 12 and 13 have been carefully considered. Prior art of record fails to teach the combination of claimed elements including a server system that stores addresses of a plurality of GUI screens that correspond to a plurality of controlling organizations for distributed control of users to distribute services provided to the plurality of users by selecting the address corresponding to the controlling organization of the user from among the plurality of addresses upon receiving a service request from a user's client system, and sending a corresponding GUI screen of the selected address to the user's client system.

Bayer et al (US 6,311,190 B1) discloses a method for conducting surveys to voters in multiple different languages and providing an addressable site which dynamically generates surveys to the computers of voters in their preferred language, and sends summaries showing the results of the survey in the voter's country or other countries. Bayer teaches a network server that does not permit a voter who has already voted in the survey to revote by creating, when a voter connects to the network server, a Voting Digital ID identifying the network server, the voting campaign and the survey. The Voting Digital ID is transmitted by the network server to the voter's computer and stored by the browser of the voter's computer as a

cookie. Bayer fails to teach or suggest that the server stores and selects an address corresponding to a controlling organization that controls the user from among a plurality of addresses, and sends a GUI screen of that controlling organization to the user in order to provide a service.

Carter et al (US 5,987,506) discloses a globally addressable storage environment that accommodates remote access and a plurality of interconnected computer networks. Carter discloses controlling organizations that are related hierarchically to each other, and a hierarchy manager for organizing the plural computers into a set of hierarchical groups. Carter fails to teach or suggest a server that stores and selects an address corresponding to a controlling organization that controls the user from among a plurality of addresses, and sends a GUI screen of that controlling organization to the user in order to provide a service.

Conclusion

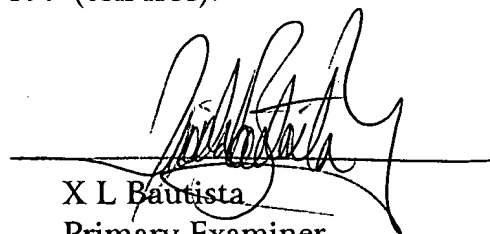
4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from

the examiner should be directed to X L Bautista whose telephone number is (571) 272-4132. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 8:00AM-6:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon can be reached on (757) 272-4136. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

6. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



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xlb
22 December 2004